



July 10, 2002

Matthew L. Spitzer
Jean and Carl Mason
Franklin Professor of Law

The Honorable Harry T. Edwards
United States Court of Appeals for the
District of Columbia Circuit
5400 East Barrett Prettyman U.S. Courthouse
333 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001-2866

Dear Judge Edwards:

I am writing to express the University of Southern California Law School's support for the new law clerk hiring plan and the proposed moratorium on law clerk hiring of 2L students during Fall 2002.

We will support the plan by taking the following actions. We will advise all 2Ls that we are supporting the moratorium this year and will urge them not to apply until Fall 2003. We will not make our clerkship database available to any 2Ls this year, and we will not provide them with advisement by our clerkship committee. We will also advise our faculty of the moratorium and ask that they refrain from providing letters of recommendation for 2Ls. To reinforce this request, our clerkship database will not be available for sending any such letters. We will also ask that faculty refrain from making telephone calls to judges on behalf of students and from taking calls from judges seeking recommendations.

Please feel free to post this letter on the federal law clerk web site. I have also provided it to Marilyn Drees at Yale for distribution on the NALP web site.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew L. Spitzer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Matthew L. Spitzer

MLS:jle